

General Notes

FROM MORTON PARK, ILLINOIS.—On February 19, 1912, I saw a Snowy Owl (*Nyctea nyctea*) flying low, about 7:30 in the morning.

On April 26, 1912, a Mockingbird (*Mimus p. polyglottos*) spent the most of the day in our back yard.

These are rare records for this place.

We have noticed a scarcity of Bluebirds in the region this year.

ORPHEUS M. SCHANTZ.

THE CASE OF THE BLUEBIRDS.—While in northern Ohio the Bluebirds were clearly fewer in number than in previous years during the earlier part of the spring and summer, from Oberlin to Toledo they were in as large numbers as in any year during September and early October. The fact that a considerable majority of the birds seen were in the juvenal plumage indicates that the relatively few old birds which did return to their regular breeding places must have been more than usually successful in rearing young. On the writer's farm the two pairs out of the five of the previous year which returned successfully reared two broods of five each. As late as the middle of September these 24 birds were keeping together and feeding in the oat stubble and the corn fields and orchard, near where they made their nests.

LYNDS JONES.

SOME CEDAR POINT-HURON, OHIO, NOTES.—On October 21, 1912, the writer and Mr. H. G. Morse of Huron, spent the day along the lake shore from Huron west on the Cedar Point sand spit some three miles. Of the list of 36 species noted the most interesting were the single Palm Warbler, the single Hermit Thrush, the 6 Red-backed Sandpipers, 2 Sanderling, 8 Black-bellied Plovers, 1 Spotted Sandpiper, the singing Meadowlarks and Bluebirds and Rusty Blackbirds, and the great numbers of Horned Grebes in the lake, all in winter plumage. Mr. Morse writes me that the Black-bellied Plovers and the Red-backed Sandpipers remained in the vicinity of where we saw them for a week. He also writes that a Surf Scoter (*Oidemia perspicillata*) was shot at Huron on October 26, a Barn Owl (*Aluco pratincola*) on November 15, and a Snowy Owl was seen near Rye Beach on November 10.

LYNDS JONES.